## FIRE DANGER POCKET CARD

# Boise Dispatch Center

http://fam.nwcg.gov/fam-web/pocketcards/







### **FIRE DANGER FACTS**

**ENERGY RELEASE COMPONENT** 

- ERC is calculated from the 1300 RAWS daily observation of temperature, humidity, daily temperature & RH ranges, and precipitation.
- ERC can serve as a good characterization of a fire season as it tracks seasonal fire danger trends.
- ERC has low variability and is the best fire danger component for indicating effects of intermediate to long-term drying on fire behavior.
- Wind is NOT part of the ERC calculation.

### **BURNING INDEX**

- BI gives day to day fluctuations calculated from the 1200 RAWS daily observation of temperature, wind, RH, daily temperature & RH ranges, and precipitation duration.
- Wind has a major influence on BI
- BI is an estimate of the potential difficulty of fire control as a function of how fast and how hot a fire could burn.
- Divide BI by 10 gives an estimate of the flame length.

DISPATCH LEVELS	BOISE MTNS ERC	SNRVR / FTHLS BI	OWYHEE BI	
HIGH Potential for high to extreme intensity. Expect high rates of spread, flame length, and control difficulty. Spot fires are a constant danger.	40+	40+	61+	
MODERATE Fires in open cured grasslands will burn briskly and spread rapidly on windy days. Timber fires spread slowly to moderately fast. Short distance spotting may occur.	23-39	26-39	39-60	
LOW Containment problems not expected. Fires tend to spread slowly by creeping and smoldering, and burn in irregular fingers.	0-22	0-25	0-38	

### LOCAL THRESHOLDS Any of these factors significantly increase the potential for extreme fire behavior.

	BOISE MOUNTAINS	SNAKE RIVER/FOOTHILLS	OWYHEE CANYONLANDS
20 FT WIND SPEED (mph)	>5	>7	>8
RH (%)	<25	<20	<15
TEMPERATURE (°F)	>80	>85	>84
FACTOR	ERC >39	BI >39	BI >57

### PAST FIRE EXPERIENCE

DATE	FIRE NAME	FDRA	SIZE	ВІ	ERC	TEMP	RH	WIND
9/3/07	CHIEF PARRISH	BOISE MTNS	3736		49	86	15	3
7/17/07	MONUMENTAL	BOISE MTNS	194,496		47	89	25	9
8/20/06	RATTLESNAKE	BOISE MTNS	43,600		48	86	15	3
7/18/07	GEM COUNTY	SNRVR/FTHLS	3962	57		104	7	12
08/10/06	CHERRY	SNRVR/FTHLS	54,350	51	_	93	13	10
8/26/96	8TH STREET	SNRVR/FTHLS	15,300	42		100	16	6
7/6/07	CRUTHCHER CROSSING	OWYHEE	38,124	71		102	4	8
8/21/06	CHUBBY SPAIN	OWYHEE	6074	79		91	9	5



# MAXIMUM. AVERAGE. 80th PERCENTILE. Data Years: 1996-2009 FUEL MODEL A—Western Annual Grasses Wx STATIONS (SIG): Mountain Home. Horse Butte. Disparch Level Modes NWCG Wx Station Standards) Disparch Level Disparch Leve

